

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 4 and 20 have been cancelled and claims 2, 5-7, 11, 14, 16-19, 21 and 22 have been amended. Thus, claims 2, 3, 5-19, 21 and 22 are now active in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

In item 2 on page 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner kindly indicated that claims 10, 14 and 15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, in order to expedite allowance of this application, independent claim 20 has been cancelled, and allowable dependent claim 14 has been amended into independent form by incorporating therein all of the limitations of the base claim 20. All of the remaining claims have been made to depend from the allowable claim 14.

Accordingly, in view of the Examiner's indication of the allowability of claim 14, and in view of the above-mentioned amendments, it is submitted that claim 14, as well as claims 2, 3, 5-19, 21 and 22 which depend therefrom, are clearly allowable. Therefore, it is submitted that the application is clearly in condition for allowance, and an early notice thereof is earnestly solicited.

If, after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner feels there are any issues remaining which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned by telephone in order to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Dai UEDA et al.

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